

Utility Patent
Ser. No. 09/778,543

**PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED
CLAIM(S) PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.121(C)(1)(I)**

Sub
DLS
A1
1. (Once Amended) An apparatus to teach a subject to vocally emulate sounds comprising:

a presence detecting sensor for detecting the presence of a subject;

a system for playing back a predetermined message, wherein said system initiates
playback of said predetermined message upon detection of the presence of said subject by said
presence detecting sensor; and

a housing which contains said sensor and said playback initiation system.

2. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a system for
selecting a prerecorded sound to be played, wherein said system comprises a selector switch for
choosing a desired prerecorded sound.

3. Canceled.

Sub
DLS
A2
4. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a system for recording sounds that
are audible to animals.

5. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said presence
detecting sensor comprises a movement sensing device.

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6. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a light sensing device for detecting the absence of light due to the presence of said subject.

7. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said presence detecting sensor comprises a laser and a laser detection sensor.

8. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said presence detecting sensor for detecting the presence of said subject comprises a heat sensing device.

9. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a bird perch, said bird perch for holding said subject, said subject being a bird.

10. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 9, wherein said bird perch is detachable.

11. An apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a mirror.

12. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein said mirror is contained within said housing, said mirror providing visual stimulation to said subject.

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13. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a means for attaching said apparatus to a birdcage.

14. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 13 wherein, said means for attaching said apparatus to said birdcage comprises a bracket.

15. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein, said apparatus is capable of freely standing.

16. (Once Amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 9 further comprising a trough, wherein said trough is inserted within a space formed within said bird perch.

17. Canceled.

18. (Once Amended) A method of teaching a subject to vocalize sounds comprising:
selecting a prerecorded sound to be played back by a playback system;
detecting said subject's presence by a presence detecting sensor; and
upon the sensor's detection of said subject, the prerecorded sound is played back for said subject to hear, whereby said subject learns to vocally emulate a desired sound.

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19. (New) An apparatus to teach a subject to vocally emulate sounds comprising:

a housing, said housing comprising an front portion and a back portion;

a presence detecting sensor, said presence detecting sensor located at said front portion
for detecting the presence of said subject;

a system for playing back a predetermined message, said system located at said back
portion, and wherein said system initiates playback of said predetermined message upon
detection of the presence of said subject by said presence detecting sensor;

a mirror, said mirror affixed to said front portion; and

a perch assembly, said perch assembly coupled to a lower portion of said housing.